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| **Criteria** | **A** | **B** | **C** | **D** |
| **Introduction:**  Give readers some context by introducing the topic of\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and the paper’s project | Introduction thoughtfully and clearly weaves together the information on topic of\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and the paper’s project | Introduction and paper’s project are clear and adequate | Introduction or explanation of paper’s project may be somewhat unclear or limited | Introduction is confusing or missing, and/or context explanation or project may not be stated |
| **Summaries and Relevance:**  Briefly and accurately summarizes each text and their relevance to topic | Text summaries are well-focused and accurate; relevant quotes are included | Text summaries are clear and accurate; adequate quotes are included | Text summaries are accurate but may be somewhat unclear; limited relevance of quotes, | Text summaries may be confused or inaccurate; relevant quotes not provided |
| **Synthesis:**  Presents own conclusions relevant to the texts gathered from credible sources | Relevant and interesting information from texts are thoroughly and effectively analyzed and compared/contrasted to show understanding of different perspectives | Relevant information from texts is adequately analyzed and compared/contrasted to show some understanding of different perspectives | Information shows limited relevance and accuracy; not all sources analyzed to show understanding of different perspectives | Information may be confused or irrelevant; little to no evidence of understanding of different perspectives |
| **Conclusion:**  Conclusion shows how a reader’s understanding of the issue of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is changed in some way from analyzing the texts | Conclusion is thoughtful and effectively demonstrates new understanding of the topic | Conclusion is adequate and clear but may be somewhat formulaic or less insightful | Conclusion is weak or limited and/or somewhat unclear | Conclusion is confusing or omitted |
| **Structure:**  Essay is structured logically and readers are guided from one point to the next | Structure is clear and effective with explicit/implicit signposts that guide readers | Structure is clear and signposts adequately guide readers | Structure may be somewhat unclear or limited or some signposts are missing | Structure is unclear with few or no signposts to guide readers |
| **Format and Conventions:**  Follows the format and conventions of academic writing | Format and conventions are accurately applied | Contains fewer than 2 format and convention errors | Contains 3 or 4 forma or convention errors | Contains numerous format and convention errors |
| **Editing:**  Carefully edited so that the paper is free of grammatical and typo errors | The paper is virtually error free | A few errors, none of which obscure the meaning of sentences | A number of errors, some of which obscure the meaning of the sentences | Numerous grammatical and/or typo errors obscure meaning |

**SYNTHESIS ESSAY RUBRIC**